

STAT

20 June 1959

The Honorable Karl E. Mundt  
United States Senate  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Karl:

I greatly appreciate your invitation to appear as a guest on one of your TV-Radio programs and it is with most sincere regret that I ask you to permit me to postpone a decision for the time being. For many months now, I have consistently taken the position against appearing on radio or TV. The pressure has been great from various quarters and it is very difficult to accept one invitation and refuse others. It is not that I am worried about the questions or the answers but really I desire to keep public appearances to the minimum and then when I have something special I want to say.

For your confidential information, I do this in part because of my close association with many friendly services abroad in the Free World who are not entirely accustomed to our ways and are somewhat surprised when they find a man in my position making many public appearances.

I say this with regret as, frankly, I rather like opportunities such as your offer to tell people in various parts of the country what we are trying to do here in the Agency. If ever I should feel that a change of policy was desirable, I would be the first to let you know.

Sincerely,

Allen W. Dulles  
Director

AWD/c  
Orig & 1 - addr: 1 - DCI: 1 - ER: 1 - Leg. Counsel: 1 - Col. Grogan.